

1	2
20. Rajasthan	455.40
21. Sikkim	3.50
22. Tamil Nadu	545.06
23. Tripura	10.88
24. Uttar Pradesh	1941.63
25. West Bengal	61.40
26. Pondicherry	5.00

[English]

Sugar Mill

418. DR. ARVIND SHARMA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether a letter of intent was issued for setting up a sugar mill at Sonapat district, Haryana in favour of the Haryana State Co-operative Sugar Mills Federation Limited;

(b) if so, whether the State Government has sought further extension of validity beyond 1996;

(c) the present status of the request;

(d) whether the Government had made available funds for setting up this Sugar Mill;

(e) if so, the quantum of funds made available;

(f) whether the State Government has utilised the allocation fully; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir. A letter of intent was issued to M/s. The Haryana State Federation of Cooperative Sugar Mills Ltd. on 7th December, 1993 for setting up of a new sugar mill at Gohana, Distt. Sonapat in Haryana.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. However, a request has been received from the Haryana State Federation of Cooperative Sugar Mills Ltd. for extension in the validity period of the aforesaid letter of intent for one year i.e. upto 6th December, 1997. In this connection, necessary explanation/clarification has been sought for from the cooperative society.

(d) The Central Government does not provide any loans for setting up of new sugar mills.

(e) to (g) Does not arise.

"Kuriarkutty Project"

419. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government have received information sought regarding Kuriyakutty-Karappara Hydel Project, Kerala from the Kerala Government; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information submitted by Kerala State Electricity Board is under examination.

Production of Polymers

420. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the production of polymers in the country during the last three years, state-wise;

(b) the details of proposals under consideration for the development of polymers for the multiple use state-wise;

(c) the steps taken to identify new areas in public/private sectors where the use of polymers can play a vital role; and

(d) the details of research and development proposals cleared for development of polymers during the last three years. State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (d) Production data of polymers state-wise is not being maintained. However, production of polymers in the country during the last three years was as follows :-

(Figures in MTs)

1993-94	:	886,600
1994-95	:	11,28,500
1995-96	:	12,60,400

In the liberalised industrial licensing policy, entrepreneurs make investment decision on the basis of their own commercial judgment and market opportunities. Such entrepreneurs have their own product/application development priorities and related R&D Centres.

Details of the proposals for development of polymers and the Research and Development proposals cleared for development of polymers are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Allotment of Levy Sugar on basis of Population

421. SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether any representation for the allotment of levy sugar on the basis of the projected population of 1996 has been received from the Government of Gujarat;

(b) whether the proposal is being considered by the Government; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Government of Gujarat in December, 1996 requested for restoration of 10% adhoc increase in levy quota allowed for the month of December, 1996 due to increase in population.

Keeping in view the availability of sugar, the Government have already allowed 10% increase in levy sugar quota for the month of January, 1997 also.

Circulation of Fake Currency

422. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :
SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA :
SHRI CHANDRABHUSHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the circulation of fake currency notes is increasing in the country;

(b) is so, the value of fake currency detected by the Reserve Bank of India during the last three years and the total value of fake currency in circulation as on December 31, 1996;

(c) whether the economy of the country has been affected adversely on this account; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Setting up Cashew Board

423. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH :
SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from State Government of Kerala for setting up a Cashew Board for the development of Cashewnut production and cashewnut export in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) the present quantity of domestic production of raw cashewnut in Kerala;

(e) whether domestic production of raw cashewnut does not serve the full employment purpose of cashew workers in Kerala;

(f) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to develop the cashew industry in the State; and

(g) the details of new measures likely to be introduced for the welfare of cashew labourers of Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The State Government of Kerala submitted memorandum covering several issues including setting up of Cashew Board to promote production of cashew so as to provide employment to labourers engaged in cashew industry.

(c) There is no proposal at present to set up a Cashew Board in the VIII Five Year Plan.

(d) The estimated domestic production of raw cashewnut in Kerala during 1995-96 season is 1.40 lakh MT.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The production of raw cashewnut in Kerala partly meets the requirement of the cashew industry in the State. The requirement is further supplemented by import of raw cashewnuts. Besides, during the VIII Plan, assistance is being provided for area expansion, replanting and supply of quality planting material to increase the domestic production under the Central Scheme on Integrated Development of Cashew in India.

(g) The above measures are likely to continue during the IX Plan which are expected to benefit the cashew labourers of Kerala including cashew industry.

[Translation]

Number of Aided Voluntary Organisations

424. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of voluntary organisations aided by the Union Government;

(b) the criteria fixed for providing such assistance;

(c) the name of the agency conducting audit of such organisations;

(d) the names of organisations which have misutilised the funds; and

(e) the details thereof for the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (e) : Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.